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LETTER DATED 12 APRIL 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that, according to information provided by the State Statistical Committee of Azerbaijan, as of 9 April 1993, owing to large-scale aggression in the Kelbadjar district and its complete occupation by the Armenian armed forces, the number of refugees in Azerbaijan has increased by 65,980 (10,888 families). Refugees from the Kelbadjar district have been settled in various regions of Azerbaijan. The largest number of refugees were settled in the Khanlar district - 15,000 (2,000 families); Barda district - 8,300 (1,564 families); Geranboy district - 5,156 (348 families); Terter district - 6,843 (1,217 families); Yevlakh district - 8,075 (1,518 families); Dashkesan district - 2,012 (372 families); Oguz district - 1,600 (247 families); Sheki district - 1,045 (202 families); Samukh district - 1,489 (331 families), the town of Gyandzha - 5,200 (1,092 families) and the town of Mingechaur - 4,183 (712 families). In all, refugees from the Kelbadjar district have been settled in 43 towns and districts of Azerbaijan. People are being settled in dormitories, clubs, schools, tourist centres, empty health homes and hotels. Many have found shelter in the homes of local inhabitants of the districts.

Many refugees are in critical condition in hospitals. Owing to the sharp rise in the number of refugees in Azerbaijan, there is an acute shortage of medicines.

Thus, as a result of Armenia's aggression against Azerbaijan, which is already in its fifth year, there are 479,009 refugees and displaced persons of Azerbaijani nationality.

That number includes 195,000 Azerbaijanis who have historical roots in Armenia and who were expelled from that country in 1988 and 1989; 72,852 refugees from Nagorny Karabakh; 66,271 from the so-called "Lachin humanitarian corridor"; 78,906 from districts of Azerbaijan on the frontier with Armenia, who were forced to leave their homes because of the incessant shelling from the territory of Armenia, of Azerbaijani towns and villages across the frontier. That number has been increased by the 65,980 people fleeing from Armenian aggressors and occupiers in the Kelbadjar district of Azerbaijan.

Moreover, the number of refugees increases every day, since the Armenian armed forces are continuing military operations in south-western Azerbaijan in the Fizuli, Zangelan, Kubadly and Djebrail districts of Azerbaijan.

I request that you take these figures into consideration when you prepare your report to the Security Council in accordance with the statement made by the President of the Security Council on 6 April 1993 (S/25539).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan A. HASSANOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative